

## Message Text

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13

ACTION HEW-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 CU-04 DRC-01 RSC-01 /046 W

----- 089979

P 071035Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7644

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 0487

FOR DHEW/OIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, RO

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: PUBLIC HEALTH -- POPA, ILINCA AND GHILEZAN

REF: KEFAUVER-BRAMANTE TELEX OF FEBRUARY 1, 1974

1. UPON RECEIVING NOTIFICATION OF HEW DESIRE HAVE FINAL TRAVEL INFORMATION BY FEBRUARY 8, MINHEALTH SPOKESMAN INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HE COULD NOT WITH CERTAINTY GUARANTEE TRAVEL PLANS BY THAT DATE. RECOGNIZING THAT GRANTS COULD BE LOST AS RESULT FREQUENT SCHEDULING CHANGES, MINHEALTH REPRESENTATIVE ASKED FOR HEW AGREEMENT TO DELAY FINAL NOTICE OF TRAVEL UNTIL APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY 20. DEPENDING ON SITUATION AT THAT TIME, MINHEALTH WOULD THEN ACCEPT ANY SCHEDULE PROPOSED BY HEW.

2. IN EVENT HEW NOT ALREADY AWARE, DELAYS IN TRAVEL OF POPA, ILINCA AND GHILEZAN ARE RELATED DIRECTLY TO GOR PASSPORT CLEARANCE PROCEDURES. PASSPORT APPROVAL IS RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, AND MINHEALTH IS VIRTUALLY POWERLESS TO INFLUENCE OR ACCELERATE APPROVAL PROCEDURES TO ANY SIGNIFICANT DEGREE. MIN HEALTH SPOKESMAN HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT DELAYS IN RECEIVING APPROVALS FOR POPA, ILINCA AND GHILEZAN ARE UNPRECEDENTED, AND HE ASKS FOR OUR UNDERSTANDING OF MINHEALTH'S DIFFICULT POSITION. EMBASSY APPRECIATES FRUSTRATIONS AND INCONVENIENCES CAUSED BY CONSTANT DELAYS IN PROGRAM BUT RECOGNIZES THESE ARE INEVITABLE IN VIEW NATURE OF GOR SYSTEM. GOR HOLDS HEALTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN HIGH ESTEEM, AND WE FEEL STRONG EFFORT SHOULD BE

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MADE TO ACCOMMODATE MINHEALTH, WHICH IS CLEARLY NOT RESPONSIBLE

FOR DELAYS IN THIS CASE.  
MARTENS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 07 FEB 1974  
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